

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

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The beam separator 11 guides the light emitted from the light source 10 and passing through the collimator lens 12a to the ultrasonic detecting element 20, and the light returning by being reflected from the ultrasonic detecting element 20 to the spectrometer 30. The beam separator 11 is constituted by, for example, a half mirror, a light circulator or a polarizing beam splitter. In the embodiment, as shown in Fig. 2a-2, a half mirror is used as the beam separator 11. The half mirror allows the incident light to transmit in a direction opposite to the incident direction, and reflects the light returning from the direction opposite to the incident direction, in a direction substantially at an angle of 90° with the incident direction.

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Next, at step S6, the detection signals outputted from the plural photoelectric conversion elements included in the photoelectric converter 50 for signal detection are obtained. Further, processing on these detection signals are performed so that the changes in the intensity of the reflected light are converted into the intensity of the ultrasonic wave step S7. Thereby, the intensity of the ultrasonic wave applied to the respective micro-areas of the ultrasonic detecting element is measured in a two-dimensional way.